

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. (Currently Amended) A pants garment, comprising:

left and right leg members for covering the left and right thigh and leg areas of a wearer, each leg member independently comprising a first stretchable portion and a second stretchable portion,

wherein said second stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for applying greater pressure than said first stretchable portions, and independently include

a front second stretchable portion provided ~~substantially~~ at a front side of each of the leg members, said front second stretchable portion extending obliquely from an upper front portion to a lower front portion of each leg member, and

a back second stretchable portion provided ~~substantially~~ at a back side of each of the leg members, said back second stretchable portion extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of each leg member,

wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion extending continuously along the front side from an outer waist[[upper]] portion, along a front outer hip portion, ~~near the thigh~~ to an inner lower knee portion of the left or right leg member ~~near the knee~~ and then to an outer ~~portion near the ankle~~ portion, respectively, and

wherein the back second stretchable portion extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of each leg member.

2. (Canceled)

3. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion and the back second stretchable portion inclined in the same direction.

4. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein for each leg member, the front second stretchable portion and the back second stretchable portion meet at least at an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member.

5. (Canceled)

6. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion extending to a position corresponding to the left or right greater trochanter of a wearer, respectively.

7.- 8. (Canceled)

9. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member is narrower in width than the front thigh elastic band member or the back thigh elastic band member.

10. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member is broader in width than the front thigh elastic band member or the back thigh elastic band member.

11. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment corresponding to approximately an outer side of the knee of a wearer.

12. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment corresponding to approximately an inner side of the knee of a wearer.

13. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to a portion of the garment approximately corresponding to an inside of the knee of a wearer to connect to the back thigh elastic band member.

14. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 31, wherein the intermediate elastic band member extends to an portion of the garment corresponding to an outside of the knee of a wearer to connect to the back thigh elastic band member.

15.- 17. (Canceled)

18. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein said below-the-knee elastic band member forms a V-shape.

19. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 33, wherein said above-the-knee elastic band member forming an upside down V-shape.

20. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein one or both thigh leg members has a hem part formed in a portion corresponding to the area above the corresponding knee of a wearer, and at least either a lower end of the front thigh elastic band member or of the back thigh elastic band member is located at the hem part.

21. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein each front thigh elastic band member extends from a lower inner part of the corresponding thigh leg member to an upper outer part of said thigh leg member and widens to cover a side portion of the waist member.

22. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member incline in opposite directions.

23. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member incline in the same direction.

24. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein the front crus elastic band member and the back crus elastic band member are continuous at least either at an inner portion of the crus leg member, or at an outer portion of the crus leg member.

25. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein the below-the-knee elastic band member has a greater tightening force for applying greater pressure than the crus leg member.

26. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein the below-the-knee elastic band member further extends to a portion of the corresponding crus leg member at least either at an inner side of a corresponding ankle, or at an outer side of a corresponding the ankle.

27. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 34, wherein a portion of a thigh leg member at an upper side of a corresponding knee has a lower tightening force for applying pressure than the corresponding below-the-knee elastic band member.

28. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein the front second stretchable portion extends from the lower part of the inside of the corresponding thigh to the corresponding greater trochanter via the upper part of the front surface of the corresponding thigh, and wherein said front second stretchable portion is curved in an indented shape toward the upper part of the corresponding thigh.

29. (Currently Amended) A garment with a crotch for covering at least part of the lower half of a body, comprising:

a band-like pressure portion at least has, at a front side portion corresponding to the front side of a thigh, a thigh front side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the front side portion, and, at a rear side portion corresponding to the rear side of the thigh, a thigh rear side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the rear side portion,

wherein the thigh front side pressure portion extends continuously along the front side from an outer waist[[upper]] portion, along a front outer hip portion, ~~near the waist~~ to an inner ankle portion of the left or right thigh leg member, respectively, and

wherein the thigh rear side pressure portion extends from an inner upper portion to an outer lower portion of each thigh leg member.

30. (Currently Amended) A garment with a crotch for covering at least part of a lower half of a body, comprising:

a band-like pressure portion at least has, at a front side portion corresponding to a front side of a crus, a crus front side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the front side portion and, at a rear side portion corresponding to a rear side of the crus, a crus rear side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the rear side portion,

wherein the garment extends from a waist portion, along a front outer hip portion, to an ankle portion.

31. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises at least one of:

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer upper portion of the thigh leg member;

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer lower portion of the thigh leg member; and

an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member.

32. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises:

a second back thigh elastic band member extending from an outer portion to an inner portion of said thigh leg member, such that the first and second back thigh elastic bands on said thigh member cross each other.

33. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises:

an above-the-knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to above the knee to outside of the knee.

34. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

left and right crus leg members respectively attached to said left and right thigh leg members, for covering the left and right crus areas of a wearer, each crus leg member independently comprising a first crus stretchable portion and a second crus stretchable portion,

wherein said second crus stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for greater applying pressure than said second crus stretchable portions, and independently include at least one of

a front crus elastic band member provided substantially at a front of each crus leg member, said front crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper front portion to a lower front portion of said crus leg member,

a back crus elastic band member provided substantially at a back side of the crus leg member, said back crus elastic band member extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of said crus leg member, and

a below-the-knee elastic band member provided at a portion of the thigh leg member corresponding to an area that spans from inside the knee to below the knee to outside the knee.

35. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 1, further comprising:

left and right pelvic members attached to said leg members for covering the right and left pelvic areas of a wearer.

36. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 35, further comprising:

an abdomen member attached to said pelvic members for covering the abdominal area of a wearer.

37. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 36, further comprising:

a waist member attached to at least one of said thigh leg members, said pelvic members, and said abdomen member, for circumscribing the waist of the wearer.

38. (Currently Amended) A pants garment, comprising:

left and right leg members for covering the left and right thigh areas of a wearer, each leg member independently comprising a first thigh stretchable portion and a second stretchable portion,

wherein said second stretchable portions have a greater tightening force for applying greater pressure than said first stretchable portions, and independently include

a front second stretchable portion provided ~~substantially~~ at a front side of each of the leg members, said front second stretchable portion extending continuously along the front side obliquely from an upper a front waist portion, along a front outer hip portion, near the waist to a lower front ankle portion of each leg member,

a first back second stretchable portion provided ~~substantially~~ at a back side of each of the leg members, said first back second stretchable portion extending obliquely from an upper back portion to a lower back portion of each leg member, and

a second back second stretchable portion extending from an upper portion to a lower portion of said leg member, such that the first and second back stretchable portions cross each other.

39. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion and the back second stretchable portion inclined in opposite directions.

40. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion and the back second stretchable portion inclined in the same direction.

41. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein for each leg member, the front second stretchable portion and the back second stretchable portion meet at least at an inner lower portion of the leg member.

42. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein at least either one of the left leg member or the right leg member has the front second stretchable portion extending to a position corresponding to the left or right greater trochanter of a wearer, respectively.

43. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein the front second stretchable portion extends from the lower part of the inside of the corresponding thigh to the corresponding greater trochanter via the upper part of the front surface of the corresponding thigh, and wherein said front second stretchable portion is curved in an indented shape toward the upper part of the corresponding thigh.

44. (Withdrawn) A garment as defined in claim 38, wherein said second thigh stretchable portions independently further comprises at least one of:

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the front thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member;

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner lower portion of the thigh leg member;

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer upper portion of the thigh leg member;

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an outer lower portion of the thigh leg member; and

- an intermediate elastic band member extending obliquely from a middle portion of the back thigh elastic band member to an inner upper portion of the thigh leg member.

45. (Previously Presented) A garment as defined in claim 38, further comprising:

left and right pelvic members attached to said members for covering the right and left pelvic areas of a wearer.

46. (Currently Amended) A garment with a crotch for covering at least part of the lower half of a body, comprising:

a band-like pressure portion at least has, at a front side portion corresponding to the front side of a thigh, a thigh front side pressure portion extending continuously along the front side obliquely from a waist portion, along a front outer hip portion, to the ankle, and, at a rear side portion corresponding to the rear side of the thigh, a thigh rear side pressure portion formed obliquely from above to below the rear side portion and a second thigh rear side pressure portion extending from an upper portion to a lower portion of said thigh, such that the first and second thigh rear side pressure portions on said thigh cross each other.